

Lee Henson

The following are the results of a Board or Commission Application sent on June 18th, 2009 at 02:17PM (CDT).

First Name: Lee
Middle Name:
Last Name: Henson

Address: 3104 Greenbriar Drive
City: Columbia
State: MO
Zip Code: 65203
Phone: (573)449-6419
Cell Phone: (573)355-6631
Email: lhenson@leehenson.com

City Limits: Yes
Ward: 5
Boone County: Yes
Registered: Yes

Employer: University of Missouri
Title: ADA Coordinator
Office Phone: (573)884-7278
Product or Service: Advice and Coordination

Board or Commission: Planning and Zoning

Current Boards: Columbia Disabilities Commission - If necessary to qualify for appointment to P&Z, I would resign from the Disabilities Commission

Community Service: Boone County Community Partnership board; Columbia Disabilities Commission board president; Services for Independent Living board president; Boone County Family Resources board; PedNet Coalition; Freedom House board; Governor's Council on Disability; Missouri Statewide Rehabilitation Council; Missouri Commission on Human Rights; Missouri Statewide Independent Living Council.

Why Do You Wish To Serve: It serves a critical role in helping to define the Columbia community. I was quite active during the Visioning process, especially as a member of the group discussing planning issues. I think it's important to have a full understanding of the costs of certain proposals made to the P&Z Commission, especially the costs others will bear. To the extent reasonable given the importance of property rights, I think planning and zoning decisions should be made within the framework of a community vision or comprehensive plan that is actively and consistently used by City government. I'm also very concerned about design issues that affect the accessibility of projects presented to this Commission. In particular, are commercial projects and especially shopping center projects going to be accessible and usable for people who - instead of driving a car - walk, bike, or use a wheelchair to get to and get around in these developments? For example, are there off-street or clearly-marked routes like bike lanes they can use for equivalent access to various buildings in the shopping center?

Experience: Experience in working with others on visioning and extensive experience regarding the ADA, accessibility, and universal design. Experience in discussions about zoning in my neighborhood here in Columbia. Ability to work collaboratively. Knowledge of the community. Training and work experience in dispute resolution. J.D. degree and license to practice law in Missouri.

Applicant Monetary Interest: No
Applicant Family Monetary Interest: No

Read Duties: Yes

Reference Name 1: Homer Page
Reference Address 1: 503 N Brookline Dr
Reference Phone 1: (573)446-0441

Reference Name 2: Christy Welliver
Reference Address 2: 184 W Green Meadows Rd
Reference Phone 2: (573)449-0904

Attachment:
LEE HENSON

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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

8/93 date: Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator, MU. Help develop and strengthen programs and services at MU supporting inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of University community life. Help ensure compliance with the ADA, and with related laws and regulations. Provide technical assistance, problem-solving, mediation, advocacy, and training services. Consult regularly with faculty, staff, students, and community groups about disability issues. Handle disability-related grievances, complaints, and inquiries. Serve on MU's Committee for Persons with Disabilities. Act as liaison to disability community organizations, and to state and federal anti discrimination agencies. Key accomplishments: maintaining a high level of participation in MU activities as a means of increasing awareness of the need for inclusionary planning and decision-making, drafting a formal process for evaluating employment accommodation requests and for providing necessary accommodations, helping plan and convene various workshops focusing on the MU's ADA responsibilities, developing ongoing working relationships with a variety of disability advocacy and technical assistance organizations including the national and regional offices of the Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD), and most recently developing Access Mizzou, a comprehensive effort to involve top campus leadership on behalf of full participation in campus and community life for faculty, staff, and students with disabilities.

From 2001 to 2006, also directed MU's "Preparing Avenues for Competitive Employment in Information Technology" - PACE-IT - project on a half-time basis. PACE-IT was a five-year project funded by the U.S. Department of Education to help improve post-graduation employment outcomes in information technology and related fields for MU students with disabilities. Recruited students, faculty, and employer participants. Developed coaching, mentoring, and internship opportunities. Acted as project liaison to participating MU units (e.g. academic advisors), as well as participating public and private sector entities off campus. Promoted/managed project, monitored individual progress of students, and prepared periodic reports.

8/90 8/93: Executive Director for Services for Independent Living, a federally funded non profit Columbia-based organization providing services to enhance independent living choices for people with disabilities. Managed agency services (funded through seven separate federal, state, and local sources), personnel, and finances. Other responsibilities: legislative advocacy, public speaking, fundraising, media liaison, and community relations. Key accomplishments: restored agency management and financial stability, increased agency fund balance from approximately \$30,000 to over \$250,000 in less than three years while concurrently expanding programs and services, and substantially increased the organization's status and positive visibility in the community.

1989 8/90: Advocacy Specialist for Missouri Protection and Advocacy Services, a statewide non-profit agency. Helped secure legal rights for people with developmental disabilities, working with state agencies, schools, community organizations, and individual aggrieved persons.

1970 88: Conciliator/mediator for U. S. Justice Department's Community Relations Service, in Federal Region VII. Helped communities address police/community relations, school segregation

and discrimination, employment discrimination, and related issues, often in circumstances involving heightened racial/ethnic community tensions. Worked on-site with disputing parties, attorneys, government agencies, and private sector. Also provided alternative dispute resolution services as a Court-appointed third party in connection with federal civil rights litigation.

1967 70:

Investigator and, later, affirmative action director for the Missouri Commission on Human Rights, a state agency.

1964 66:

Assistant instructor in English Department at University of Missouri in Columbia.

1963 64:

Advertising copywriter for Kemper Insurance Group in Chicago.

1962 63:

Active duty in U. S. Army (honorable discharge in 1968, after completing reserve obligation).

EDUCATION

J.D. 1974:

University of Missouri - Kansas City.

B.A. 1962:

Brown University, Providence, R.I.

Extensive training in negotiation and dispute resolution, through the U.S. Department of Justice, University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law, Missouri Bar, and elsewhere, as well as in civil rights generally and disability rights specifically, through the U.S. Department Of Justice, U.S. Department of Education, Missouri Commission on Civil Rights, Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund, and elsewhere.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Missouri Bar, American Bar Association, Association of Missouri Mediators, Society for Human Resource Management, and Association on Higher Education and Disability.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Member: Columbia Disabilities Commission and Columbia Northwest Rotary. Former member of the boards of Boone County Community Partnership, Services for Independent Living, Freedom House, and Boone County Group Homes and Family Support. Also former member of the Missouri Statewide Rehabilitation Council, Missouri Statewide Independent Living Council, Missouri Commission on Human Rights, and Missouri Governor's Council on Disability. Also served as an impartial hearing officer for the Missouri Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and as a program reviewer for the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

Info Accurate: Yes